

## SUMMARY OF DECISIONS TAKEN

**MEETING:**                    **Community Select Committee**  
**Thursday 10 October 2013, Kadoma Room, Daneshill House, Stevenage, SG1 1HN**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**    Councillors: S Walker (Chair), M Notley (Vice-Chair), L Bell, and L Harrington,

Also in attendance:        Youth Mayor and the Chair of the Youth Council

<b>1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b>	<b>ACTION/LEAD</b>
<p>Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors C Latif, J Mead, G Snell and P Stuart.</p> <p>There were no declaration of interests.</p>	<p>O Adeoye Ext 2809</p>
<b>2. MINUTES – 18 JULY 2013</b>	
<p>It was <b>RESOLVED</b> that the Minutes of the meeting held on 18 July 2013 be agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.</p>	<p>O Adeoye Ext 2809</p>
<b>3. FEEDBACK ON COMMUNITY TRANSPORT RESEARCH</b>	
<p>In response to a Members question about increasing the fares for the usage of the bus, the Head of Leisure, Environmental Health and Children’s Services advised that an increase in fares would only have a minimal effect on the overall cost of the services. He advised that the service could not be looked at purely on a balance sheet basis but needed to be considered against the Council’s strategic priority to fund the service, where the social cost benefit to the community was hard to measure. He also noted that incorporating other groups to use the bus beyond the current clients especially in the evening and weekends would be a challenge, but worth considering.</p>	

<p>The Youth Mayor informed the meeting that the possibility of extending the service for use by young people and youth clubs was welcomed when considered by the Youth Council recently.</p> <p>The Chair informed the meeting that she had met with the Community Transport Officer who had provided her with a valuable summary on how the service is run. Councillor Bell attended a community bus trip as part of the review.</p>	
<p><b>4. PRESENTATION ON COMMUNITY TRANSPORT IN STEVENAGE</b></p>	
<p>The Leisure Manager and the Community Transport Officer provided Members with an overview of the operation and activities of the Community Transport in Stevenage</p> <p>Members welcomed the various activities provided by the service such as facilitating shopping trips, visiting day centres and lunch clubs for the elderly and the disabled but enquired if the services could be extended to other users in the town. Members suggested that consideration could be given to using the Community buses during periods when it not currently in use to transport food bank parcels.</p> <p>In response to a question on whether issues around Community Transport had been reflected in the Green Travel plan, the Head of Leisure, Environmental Health &amp; Children Service advised that at this stage due to the economic climate, it has not been considered.</p> <p>The Head of Leisure, Environmental Health &amp; Children Service advised that an equality impact assessment had recently been undertaken for services for Older People.</p> <p>It was agreed that the best way forward for the review would be to hold a roundtable discussion with other notable Community bus services providers such as CVS, Dial-a-ride etc. to ascertain any gaps with the current service coverage and identify what capacity there might be for working together to support and grow the service.</p> <p>The Chair thanked both the Leisure Manager and the Community Transport Manager for the presentation.</p>	<p>G Caines Ext 2206</p>

<b>5. STEVENAGE'S COMMITMENT TO CARERS</b>	
<p>The Head of Leisure, Environmental Health &amp; Children Service informed Members that following Council's commitment to being a Carer Friendly Council, the Committee is requested to consider the contents of the draft commitment.</p> <p>A suggestion for Carers passport to be included was noted and Members suggested that carers be provided with the opportunity to identify themselves when accessing Council services and most importantly carers be encouraged to shape the services it requires.</p> <p>The meeting was advised that Members observations or comments be sent to Scrutiny Officer and on to the Head of Leisure, Environmental Health &amp; Children's Services before the final report is considered by Executive in December 2013.</p>	<p>A Sanderson Ext 2311</p> <p>S Weaver Ext 2332</p>
<b>6. CHILD POVERTY</b>	
<p>The Chair requested that discussion of child poverty be an agenda item at the next meeting.</p> <p>The Committee requested a briefing paper from the Children's Centre Manager highlighting the issues regarding child poverty in Stevenage to help the Committee understand the issues better.</p>	<p>S Weaver Ext 2332</p> <p>G Buck Ext 2247</p>
<b>7. URGENT PART 1 BUSINESS</b>	
<p>None</p>	
<b>8. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC</b>	
<p>None</p>	
<b><u>PART II</u></b>	

<b>9. URGENT PART II BUSINESS</b>	
None	